

From: [Leos, Valmichael](#)
To: [Miller, Garyg](#)
Subject: RE: Flooding of San Jacinto River
Date: Tuesday, May 19, 2015 4:23:22 PM

Yes it would. Would you like me to send David Keith an email or would you like to?

Sincerely,

Valmichael Leos
Remedial Project Manager
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Region 6
O: 214-665-2283
E: leos.valmichael@epa.gov

From: Miller, Garyg
Sent: Tuesday, May 19, 2015 4:22 PM
To: Leos, Valmichael
Subject: FW: Flooding of San Jacinto River

Valmichael – in case you haven't seen this; would current conditions trigger a requirement for a new cap inspection?

Thanks,

Gary Miller
EPA Remedial Project Manager
214-665-8318
miller.garyg@epa.gov

From: Jacquelyn Young [<mailto:jeyoung@texanstogether.org>]
Sent: Tuesday, May 19, 2015 1:31 PM
To: Miller, Garyg
Cc: Lisa Gossett; Walters, Donn; sjones@galvbay.org; Owens, Rock (CAO); O'Rourke, Terence (CAO); Allen, Bob (PCS)
Subject: Flooding of San Jacinto River

Gary,

I have cc'd several other parties involved, as I welcome feedback on my concerns and the concerns of our community members.

The recent flooding of the San Jacinto River, north of the Waste Pits, has broken historical records and has been covered on national news. For the past three days, community members living near the Pits have expressed concerns about the amount and velocity of water travelling down the River and over/around the Waste Pits. Greg Moss sent me an update yesterday- "the water is flowing very fast over it. The lower pits [eastern portion] are still under water but you can tell the current is



9672220

flowing fast across them. I would think the northwest corner is getting eroded because that is where the main flow is hitting it. The lower pits you can see the current rolling over the top. Then you can see where the current changes from on top of the pits and the main river. It's rolling pretty well when it comes off the pits." and "Water is pretty high this morning. The wind is blowing from the south and with all the run off the west pit has quite a bit of water on it."

Greg's observation of the northwest corner of the Site is extremely concerning to me. It is my understanding that the northwest portion of the Site is *not* covered by the geomembrane or crushed concrete and that the one time the monitoring well on the northwest portion was sampled, dioxin was found in the groundwater sample.

Given my understandings, Greg's observations, and the lack of data, I don't feel confident that the cap is doing what it was intended by the EPA to do. The only data the EPA has relayed to us about the integrity of the cap is elevation data (which has shown slight variances) and pore sampling data (which has shown low levels of dioxin). Sure, maybe large volumes and high concentrations of wastes are not being released from the Site, but we're dealing with extremely toxic compounds in a residential area, north of an estuary that produces seafood for our Nation. *We need more data.* We need not to rely on theories when it comes to protecting public health and the environment, rather we need to rely on scientific data. Going back to my oyster concern that I expressed at the EPA's recent Open House - - I see the contaminated oyster tissue sampled from Burnett Bay as an indicator that it is in a contaminated environment. Not knowing whether the contamination is residual or if it was released after the construction of the cap. It should be noted that Scott Jones follow-up on my oyster question with details about prohibited shellfish harvesting in that area.

I know that the Site is kind of in a holding pattern as the proposed remedy is decided. At the recent open house I was informed that there are discussions (I believe between Harris County, and the EPA) about the need for more sampling. I strongly feel that more sampling is imperative to uphold the EPA's mission "to protect human health and the environment". Prior to the Site's NPL listing and during the Superfund process, the surrounding communities, recreation, and fishing, are not in a holding pattern. I think that we can do better than what we are currently working with and I hope to receive a response that more sampling *will* take place.

Thank you,
Jackie Young